

Caring Families



# Caring Families Coalition

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Name: Anne Goodin  
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My name is Anne Goodin and I am a resident of Manchester. I am here today supporting Senate Bill No.1 an Act Increasing Access to Affordable, Quality Health Care. Our youngest daughter Katie is 17. When she was 15 she was diagnosed with Bipolar disorder type one. She has been committed to psychiatric hospitals four times and has had numerous trips to the emergency room. She has attempted suicide three times, twice with pills, and once by stabbing herself in the abdomen with a knife, which required major surgery.

Because Katie's disorder is so demanding I lost my job and am unable to work. We sold our house in Hebron and moved to Manchester in order to pay off debt that built up during this time period.

Our insurance will only cover her until age 19 and husky insurance won't cover her then. Her medications without insurance would be over a couple thousand dollars a month, not to mention psychiatrists, social workers, counselors, and lab work. We can't even imagine the cost of a hospitalization.

Before Bipolar disorder began to unravel her life Katie was joyful, friendly, very talented in drama, voice and creative writing and did exceptionally well on state tests. She was and still is our pride and joy. The bright future has now become dark and scary. If Katie loses her healthcare she will be in great danger. She has come to me many times in tears because she is afraid of the future. I try to comfort her and tell her we will stand by her. Unconditional love will only go so far without healthcare to protect her from her disorder.